

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Claims 28, 48, and 50 are to be canceled herein. Claim 49 is to be amended. All claim amendments and cancellations are made without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend the claims as follows:

1-48. (Canceled).

49. (Currently amended) A method for delivering a nucleic acid of interest to a mesenchymal stem cell, said method comprising:

administering to a mesenchymal stem cell, in vitro, a recombinant adenovirus of subgroup C, said recombinant adenovirus comprising the nucleic acid of interest and a fiber protein of a second adenovirus serotype associated therewith, wherein the fiber protein provides a tissue tropism for mesenchymal stem cells and the second adenovirus serotype is selected from the group consisting of serotype 16, serotype 32, serotype 35, serotype 40-S, and serotype 51; and infecting the mesenchymal stem cell with the recombinant adenovirus.

50. (Canceled).

51. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 49, wherein said adenovirus serotype of subgroup C is adenovirus serotype 5.

52. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 49, wherein the second adenovirus serotype is serotype 16.

53. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 49, wherein the second adenovirus serotype is serotype 35.

54. (Previously presented) A method for delivering a nucleic acid of interest to a mesenchymal stem cell *in vitro*, said method comprising:

administering to a mesenchymal stem cell *in vitro* a recombinant adenovirus of subgroup C, said recombinant adenovirus comprising a nucleic acid of interest and a fiber protein, wherein the fiber protein has a tropism for the mesenchymal stem cell and the tropism determining part of the fiber protein is selected from the group consisting of serotype 16, serotype 32, serotype 35, serotype 40-S, and serotype 51; and

infecting the mesenchymal stem cell with the recombinant adenovirus.

55. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 54, wherein said adenovirus serotype of subgroup C is adenovirus serotype 5.

56. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 54, wherein the fiber protein is serotype 16.

57. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 54, wherein the fiber protein is serotype 35.

58. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 54, wherein the tropism determining part of the fiber protein comprises a knob region from serotype 35.

59. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 54, wherein the tropism determining part of the fiber protein comprises a knob region from serotype 16.

60. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 55, wherein the fiber protein comprises a tail region of adenovirus serotype 5.

61. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 60, wherein the tropism determining part of the fiber protein comprises a knob region from serotype 16.